

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Communist Party in the Pirin Macedonia region was purged in the period 1948 - 1950 following the publication of the Cominform Resolution. Several Communist Party leaders who were known to be pro-Yugoslav were dismissed from their positions and replaced by younger men.
2. In July 1951, a Party Commission was organized within the Gorna Dzhumaya Okrug Communist Party Committee. This commission purged passive Party leaders and undesirable elements in the lower ranks of the Party. It was officially explained that the commission was established to eliminate monarchists and IMRO (Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization) followers from the Party cadres. The commission advised many Party members that, in spite of the fact that they were trusted by the Party, they could not remain in executive positions because they had been in close contact with high officials of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia. As a result, many Party leaders and State Security officials were removed from their positions. In several instances, however, the dismissed officials received minor Party posts.
3. A large purge of the ranks of the Communist Party in Petrich Okoliya took place in 1952, especially toward the end of December 1952. Several Party leaders lost their Party positions and were expelled from the Party. Most of these were former IMRO members and several had fought with the Communist Partisans during World War II.

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